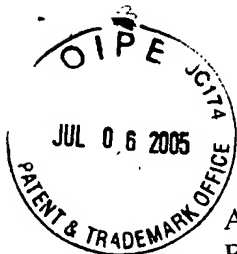


gpa



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/025,982 Confirmation no.:
First Named Inventor : Maged E. Beshai
TC/A.U. :
Examiner : Hassan Kizou
Filed : December 26, 2001

Docket No. :
Customer No. : 000293

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.